

**HIGH NOON TIMBER SALE
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
EA# OR105-95-15
Decision Documentation**

Bureau of Land Management-Roseburg District
South Douglas Resource Area
Date Prepared: April 11, 1996

Decision:

It is my decision to authorize cable harvest of approximately 6.0 MMBF of timber from approximately 242 acres (Alternative #2) in T29S R3W Sections 29, 31 & 33 and T30S R3W Sections 3 & 4. The harvest is in Tier 1 watershed within GFMA and Connectivity. The sale date is set for June 25, 1996 and the expected implementation date is the summer of 1996.

There will be approximately two miles of road construction and approximately twelve miles of road renovation. In the Days Creek Watershed there will be approximately 3.3 miles of road decommissioned/obliterated. The level of decommissioning is dependent on consensus from landowners who have Reciprocal Right-of-Way Agreements with BLM. No roads would be constructed in Riparian Reserves. Yellow Starthistle in the vicinity of Unit 6 should be avoided during road renovation in order to prevent dispersal of noxious weed seed. The Woodland Milk Vetch (Special Status Plant) population, in Unit 9 will be protected from logging/road renovation and site preparation. For site preparation the recommendations are to: not broadcast burn Units 1 and 7, broadcast burn Units 2 and 3 with a spring-like burn, handpile and burn Units 4 and 5, and Units 6, 8 and 9 have no significant soils related restrictions in regards to the use of fire for site preparation. Specific site preparation methods for units not broadcast burned would be determined after harvest. Harvest units will be planted within one year of the completion of site preparation.

Rationale for Decision:

The decision is based on the following objectives; alternative two applies the ecosystem management approach as outlined in the Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (ROD) and meets the objectives for Matrix lands as stated in the Roseburg District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP, p. 33). The sale will contribute to the allowable sale quantity (ASQ) (ROD/RMP, p. 60) for the resource area as originally proposed. The no action alternative would not meet the above objectives.

In addition, all practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm have been adopted. The project design features (mitigation) identified for the proposed action, are listed on pages 3-5 of the environmental assessment (EA) and will be formulated into contract stipulations and applied during sale layout and implementation. Best Management Practices (ROD/RMP, Appendix D) will be implemented. The Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives would be met by restoring and maintaining the ecological health of the watersheds and aquatic ecosystems within them on public lands. Impacts are not expected to

exceed those discussed in the RMP (Vol. I, p. 4-7 thru 4-99). The harvest would not result in any significant environmental impacts, and is in conformance with the Standards and Guidelines and the ROD/RMP for the Roseburg District.


No issues were identified by other agencies, Native Americans, nor the public during the initial public contact. The Oregon Natural Resources Council responded during the initial scoping of the project and requested to be supplied with any additional NEPA scoping and the decision notice. No public comments were received after the completion of the EA.

Compliance and Monitoring:

Monitoring would be conducted as per the guidance given in the ROD/RMP (Appendix I).

Protest and Appeal Procedures:

Public Law 104-19 (July 27, 1995) states that salvage timber sales and timber sales covered by Option 9 "shall not be subject to administrative review". This bill supersedes 43 CFR Subpart 5003 - Administrative Remedies. Protests must be filed in the appropriate U.S. district court within 15 days of the first publication of the sale notice. The sale notice is planned to appear in the News Review on May 28, 1996.



Alan Wood, Area Manager
South Douglas Resource Area

5-13-96
Date